

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 11-07-06 From the Office of the Director of Health

Flu Vaccinations Offered in Fair Grove

High-risk individuals can receive a flu vaccination at no cost at a clinic to be held in Fair Grove on Monday, November 13th. Late vaccine shipments delayed the clinic, which was originally scheduled for October 20th.

"The timing is important," says spokesperson Jaci McReynolds. "We've been working with the Springfield Flu Coalition to provide vaccinations in Springfield, but this is the first clinic we've been able to host in the county. Since seasonal flu spreads when people are in close contact with each other, we'd like to offer vaccine protection before people begin to gather for the Thanksgiving holiday."

The clinic will be held at Fair Grove City Hall, located at 81 South Orchard Boulevard. It will be open from 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm on a first come, first served basis to anyone in the following categories:

- People 65 years old and older
- Residents of long-term care facilities
- People with chronic medical conditions (heart, lung and kidney disease, asthma, diabetes, anemia)
- People with muscle or nerve disorders (MS, ALS, seizure disorders, severe cerebral palsy, etc.)
- People with weakened immune systems (HIV/AIDS, long-term steroid use, cancer treatments)
- · Children 6 months to 59 months old
- Children over 59 months with chronic medical conditions or who are on long-term aspirin treatment
- Women who will be pregnant during the flu season (Oct 2006 May 2007)
- Household contacts and out-of-home caretakers of children under age 5
- Health care workers or other people in close contact with people who are considered to be high-risk

Pneumococcal vaccine will also be offered to eligible adults for \$38.00 per dose. Medicaid and Medicare will cover both flu and pneumococcal vaccines. Individuals should wear a short-sleeved shirt with easy access to the upper arm and must bring Medicaid or Medicare cards. Children must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian who can provide medical consent for the vaccination.

Additional clinics will be scheduled as more vaccine becomes available. Please call the Public Health Information Hotline at (417) 864-1166 for updated information.

Media inquiries, contact:

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